

## THE BALLAD OF THE SAUCY KITT



Once I was shipped as engineer upon the Saucy Kitty.  
As good a tug as ever swam to seaward from the city.  
We pounded down the Hook one day, an oily swell a-rolling—  
One of those heavy, soggy days, with all the bell buoys tolling.  
"There's weather in the south," says I. "You bet," says Bill Maguire,  
"And if we get a sailing ship, we'll make her pay our hire."  
We squattered down the sliding seas, and spluttered in the trough,  
Until the Jersey shore abeam lay 15 sea miles off.  
And there we hailed a Spanish brig with spars as tall as thunder,  
And she was freighted to the decks and rolling gunwales under,  
"Now, bully boys," says Bill Maguire: "the weather's coming quick,  
And if we take that brig we'll have a job to make us sick."  
We rounded to beneath her stern and, "Hey!" says Cap Maguire,  
"D'ye want a tow? You'll need it soon. Speak quick, for I'm a flyer!"  
The Spanish captain stroked his beard and looked while we stood ready.  
"How much," says he. "Two hundred straight," says Bill, "and rising steady."  
"Senor, you jest!" the captain said. Bill threw his wheel hard down.  
"Three hundred dollars now," says he "and more before you drown."  
"No, no!" the Spanish captain cried. But Bill Maguire thundered,  
"Look south! For every minute now, I'll charge another hundred!"  
The captain looked and leaped astern. "I'll pay you for your towing!"  
But Cap Maguire twirled his wheel and said: "Still more you're owing  
I'll charge you seven hundred now to pay me for my waiting;  
You haven't got a minute left, for here the squall comes skating!"  
"Done!" cried the Spaniard, black with rage, both his dark eyes a-kindle  
"I only hope you tow one-half as well as you can swindle!"  
We'd barely got the vessel fast and swung her to the hawser  
Before the weather hit us straight and how the squall did yaw her!  
We headed in the smother blind. We'd scarce come out a-drippin  
Before again we'd bury deep in green that came a-ripping!  
Maguire signaled for full speed; then down the tube he hollers:  
"Now, if you bust that hawser we lose seven hundred dollars!"  
We rolled to right, we rolled to left, each roll looked like our last,  
But in the reeling pilot house Maguire held her fast.  
We couldn't see the brig astern. The air was thick as night,  
And only the tense hawser told that we still had her tight.  
We rolled to right, we rolled to left; we drowned from bow to stern,  
With heart in mouth I braced myself and watched my engines turn;  
And each time the propeller raced, I thought: "This is her last!"  
But every time Maguire turned and held her to the blast.  
Now, if you've seen that Jersey shore hit by a gale from seaward,  
You'll need no sworn certificate to tell you death's to leeward.  
So when Maguire down the tube said: "Jim, she's losing steady!"  
I saw that devil of a beach as if we'd struck already.  
I saw its wicked, tawny glint, where, deep in tons of water,  
It waited for the crested sea to bring us to the slaughter.  
"We can't hold on," my helper said (his breath came in short catches)  
"If we don't cast that Spaniard off, we'll go ashore as matches."  
"My engines can't do any more," I yelled up to Maguire,  
"And we are taking seas aboard that sure will drown our fire!  
No man will blame you if you cast a ship off in this weather!"  
"We'll hold the brig," Maguire said, "or go ashore together!"  
We rolled to starboard and to port, we rolled from left to right  
Once as we wallowed, from my post the beach was plain in sight.  
We came so close that I could see the white foam on the strand  
As every grayback rolled ashore and pounded on the land.  
Then Maguire down the tube: "You're holding to her fine!  
Now keep your engines steady, man, and don't you bust that line!"  
"She's almost in the breakers," said my helper. "Now we're done!  
When will that madman at the wheel cast off his line and run?"  
But Bill's voice down the tube again sang cheerily, "You bet!  
If we can keep her as she is, we'll hold that Spaniard yet!"  
Ridge after ridge of crested sea tried to twist us around  
And roll us as a foundered wreck toward the Jersey ground.  
Stroke after stroke the black squall beat to turn her nose and twist  
Us headlong in the trough where we would vanish like a mist.  
Turn after turn my engines made! I nursed them all I knew;  
Straight with her nose to open sea Maguire held her true.  
He held her true for seven hours, all of a steady squall,  
And we were just outside the line of breakers—that was all,  
When the black storm flapped at last and left us where we shook,  
To flounder on the tossing sea and crawl inside the Hook.  
No word came from the rolling brig, until we reached smooth water  
And took our hawser and steamed 'round to lie beneath her quarter.  
The Spanish captain then leaned down, bearded and tall and grave:  
"Senor, the tugboat captain, your pardon I must crave.  
A thief of the sea I thought you when this little trip began,  
But I stand in port on my rescued ship to say that you are a man!"  
—Boston Herald.



### Fashion Always Supreme.

The excavations which Dr. Evans has been making in Crete reveal that the woman of fashion in 1600 B. C. favored the hour-glass waist and figure,

and probably the Grecian figure was regarded as a barbarism. Barbaric figures, however sensible, can never hope to compete with those of fashion's dictates.

### CREEKS FAVOR SCHOOLS

#### Annual Report Shows They Have 3,062 Pupils Enrolled

MUSKOGEE: The annual report of Cheslie McIntosh, superintendent of the Creek schools, which has been submitted to the Creek council, now in session at Okmulgee, shows that 3,062 pupils are enrolled. Of this number 1,411 or nearly one-half are negroes. There is no race problem, however, in the Creek nation, so far as the schools are concerned, for the negroes are educated in separate buildings from the Indians.

The large negro population of the that this is a larger enrollment than last year, and perhaps the largest in the history of the schools of the Creek nation. The Creek people, unlike the Chickasaws, look upon the appropriation by congress of \$100,000 to provide for the attendance of white or non-citizen children in the Indian day schools with favor.

The large negro population of the Creek nation is further illustrated by the fact that there are forty-nine neighborhood or day schools and twenty-three, or nearly one-half of the number, are for negroes. The report shows that there are also seven boarding schools, with a total enrollment of 874; two orphan schools, one for Indians and one for negroes, with 121 pupils, and a high school at Eufaula with an attendance of ninety-eight.

### MORE TROUBLE FOR WHITE

#### Dawes Commission Clerk Now Has Another Charge Against Him

MUSKOGEE: The Dawes commission has not yet received official information from Washington of the report that J. Edgar White, a clerk at the Tishomingo land office, has been recommended for dismissal as a result of Inspector Conser's recent investigation. Reliable information has been given out that a session of the Dawes commission will be called in the near future, at which time White's dismissal may be recommended to the department.

White was suspended several weeks ago, pending the investigation, and the absence of Commissioner Breckenridge alone stood in the way of final action in the matter being taken by the commission. The charges against White, which led to the investigation by the inspector, were that he accepted money to help certain attorneys push the business of their clients in the land office. White was arrested in Muskogee a few nights ago by Katy officers while he was carrying away a valise said not to be his own from the Katy hotel and was brought into police court under a charge of disturbing the peace. He gave \$2,000 bond and his case was continued.

### Repairing Flood Damage

MUSKOGEE: The M. K. & T. Railway company has put a large force of men at work repairing the flood damage done on its main line track through Indian Territory by the overflow of the Canadian river. Over two miles of track were washed out, and the Canadian railroad bridge is a foot out of line. It will be impossible for trains to cross the river on the main line for several days. Meanwhile Katy trains make a detour from South McAlester to Fort Smith and back to Muskogee over the Midland Valley. It requires twelve hours to South McAlester to Fort Smith and to Muskogee, which is a two-hour run when the main line is open.

### Santa Fe Trains Via Shawnee

SHAWNEE: All through trains for the south and west on the Santa Fe are being sent via the Eastern Oklahoma line through Shawnee. This arrangement will continue for sixty days until all flood damage is repaired and a new schedule has been announced. Twenty-four trains daily to and from Kansas City are now passing here.

### RULING FAVORS DELAWARES

#### Cherokees Must Prove Right to Land Claimed as Delaware Surplus

MUSKOGEE: The secretary of the interior has promulgated a ruling, dated October 4, 1904, which will help the Delaware Indians gain undisputed possession of their surplus lands and sell them before the time limit for disposing of them expires. The ruling makes it necessary for any Cherokee who has made application for land claimed by Delaware as a part of their surplus holdings to file a contest before the Dawes commission and prove his rights to the ground before he may gain possession. The new ruling provides that these cases shall be made special, which insures a speedy hearing before the commission. The Delaware has possession until the Cherokee can prove his right to the land, if he has such right, and if he has not the Delaware will be given an opportunity to sell his surplus lands within the next sixty days the time yet remaining for that purpose. All surplus lands and improvements of the Delaware not sold within that time will revert to the government and become part of the public domain, hence it can be seen that a speedy settlement of all contests affecting the right to this land is of greatest importance to the Delaware.

There are about 30,000 acres of surplus lands owned by Delaware allottees. Most of this ground is in the heart of the oil country.

On April 21, 1904, a clause of the Indian appropriation bill was passed giving the Delaware Indians a right to sell their surplus lands for a period of six months after the date of filing for their allotments. Immediately afterward the Dawes commission sent out notices to the Delaware to appear at the land office within ninety days and select their allotments under penalty of having their selections made for them if they did not appear in that time.

In response to the notices most of the Delaware did appear and selected their allotments; and the six months' time for selling their surplus lands dated from the time they filed for allotments.

### COAL LAND BIDS REJECTED

#### Congress May Increase Area and Interest Big Companies

WASHINGTON: Commissioner Jones has received the report of the Choctaw and Chickasha coal commission and approved their recommendation rejecting all bids submitted by the various individuals and corporations for the purchase of the seventy-four tracts of coal land included in the South McAlester coal district. Commissioner Jones agrees with the commission that all bids submitted are far below the actual value of the property, and in no case is it as much as one-third the appraised minimum value.

In his letter of transmittal, Commissioner Jones takes occasion to suggest to the secretary the necessity of asking congress to modify the law governing the sale of these lands. The present law limits the amount of land that can be purchased by any individual or corporation to 960 acres. This prevents the large coal companies from obtaining holdings in this district, for there would be no profit in operating such areas. Commissioner Jones suggests to the secretary that he have congress remove the limitations so as to induce the large coal companies throughout the country to bid on these lands. There is little doubt but that Secretary Hitchcock will approve the recommendations of the commissioner and that all of these lands will be re-advertised.

Grass widows are just in their heyday in the vegetarian season. They look good enough to eat.